

Arlington Recycling Committee
Minutes of 1/3/13

Present: Co-Chair Juli Brazile, Co-Chair Gordon Jamieson, DPW Recycling Coordinator Charlotte Milan, Sue Stamps, Janice Pare, Secretary Pete Howard

RECYCLING CORDINATOR REPORT: Charlotte provided updates (Ref 1) on the monthly tonnage through Nov. Solid waste diversion has averaged 15% greater than last year. The committee applauded her timely holiday paper and e-waste recycling article in the Advocate & on line at the Town's website. Charlotte wants to use a tons/household metric as advocated by DEP but has not been able to find an authoritative number for the number of households. She added a monthly recycling rate column to her report $[(\text{yard waste} + \text{recycling}) / (\text{yard waste} + \text{recycling} + \text{solid waste})]$. For the first five months of FY13 this metric averaged 42% (includes yard waste heavy fall collection)

Gordon provided an update of his multi year tally (Ref 2) showing the solid waste incinerated. This chart includes an estimate of the FY13 total, 11400 T, a 20% decrease from FY12 and shows a goal of 50% reduction (equated to 50% diversion too) from historical tip tonnage amounts from 1999-2003.

Note: After last month's meeting Alyssa Sandoval expressed interest in researching how other communities set benchmarks and track results. We had a number of thoughts about what information Charlotte might include on her charts. Juli proposed that Gordon, Charlotte and Alyssa review some of the options and propose some report formats and spreadsheets for the larger group to consider.

ADDING NEW MEMBERS: There are 2 vacancies. Janice asked to consider future membership.

UPDATES ON ONGOING PROJECTS

1. **LETTER TO GOVERNOR ON SOLID WASTE MASTER PLAN:** Pete reported that after some changes by the Town Manager and the DPW Director, the letter (Ref 3) was signed by the CoChairs of SA & ARC and the DPW Director and mailed. He reviewed the changes which were intended to protect the Town's independence concerning the means of implementing solid waste reduction and encouraging DPW incentives. This initiative is completed. Juli will follow up on our idea that Adam might want to share this with other town managers he knows to put more pressure on the DEP and Governor. Adam told Juli he had a few in mind.

2. **MANDATORY BUSINESS RECYCLING:** Sue reviewed her discussion with Christine Connolly. The Board of Health (BoH) has not changed trash hauler regulations to require haulers to offer recycling. Christine asked Sue & Charlotte to prepare a draft regulation for consideration by the BoH at their next meeting. Carolyn Dann has developed a regulation for Attleboro which Sue can adapt for Arlington. She plans to have it ready for the Feb 6 BoH meeting. Based on a survey of haulers that Christine had done, most offer recycling already; at what cost she does not know. Some businesses have a space limitation. Christine also suggested a place saver warrant article concerning the regulation. After some discussion the group agreed that this is not an ARC responsibility. Charlotte prepared charts (Ref 5) summarizing this issue including the law that BoH's require haulers to offer recycling. Sue will get on the BoH agenda and will invite Carolyn Dann.

3. **MA DEP SOLID WASTE MASTER PLAN (SWMP):** Charlotte discussed a Power Point presentation (Ref 4) she had developed which reviews the goals and objectives in the SWMP and some of the details that affect Arlington. One of these is to reduce solid waste (incinerated) by 30% between 2008 and 2020, and by 80% by 2050. Most of the objectives require the DEP to improve the performance of the disposal facilities in various ways. One change to the draft would permit more

incinerators. Janice expressed concerned with additional air pollution. She will follow up, starting with the DEP proposed regulation of these pollutants. There is a public comment period open until Feb 15 on allowing new incinerators.

4. DISCUSSION OF BANNING E-WASTE: Gordon thinks that the Town should consider banning E-Waste. Charlotte is concerned with space at the Town Yard to store E-Waste between pickups. Residents could take some to the stores that sell replacements. The ARC agreed that an article in this year's warrant to ban E-Waste is premature. Charlotte will try to define E-Waste as a fraction of the waste stream so we can assess the impact and how to make our case. We agree it's a good idea and a next step to keep making progress on the long-term goal of 50% diversion of solid waste.

5. TOPICS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS (Not addressed above)

- Recycling Promotion Articles
- Recycling Bin Map
- Spring CCD
- EcoFest
- School Cafeteria Composting

FUTURE MEETINGS - 2/7/13 First Thursday of each month at 7:30pm in the Town Hall Annex unless otherwise announced.

- Ref 1 Solid Waste Tracking Report
- Ref 2 Solid Waste History & Goal
- Ref 3 Solid Waste Master Plan Letter
- Ref 4 Review of Solid Waste Master Plan
- Ref 5 Private Hauler Regulatons.

Ref 1

Recycling Coordinator Report, Jan. 3, 2013

| 2012 | Solid Waste | % change from prev year | Recycling | % change from prev year | Yard Waste* |
|-------|-------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-------------|
| Jul. | 958.61 | 84 | 405.66 | 131 | 233.44 |
| Aug. | 1,185.39 | 87 | 418.14 | 110 | 236.25 |
| Sept. | 1,022.44 | 78 | 410.92 | 102 | 222.19 |
| Oct. | 1,071.74 | 89 | 448.75 | 102 | 390.94 |
| Nov. | 1,108.17 | 87 | 502.84 | 114 | 1,513.00 |
| Dec. | | | | | |

* We dispose of about 3000 tons of yard waste per year

Recycling and Trash Program Update

Article in Advocate and Town Notices drew attention to paper and e-waste recycling around holiday time.

School Recycling and Composting

No updates to report

Upcoming Events

MSW: Trees will be collected week of Jan 7-11

EcoFest: EcoFootprints: Arlington People, Places, Spaces will be held on March 23, 10am-2pm at Town Hall. Rain barrels and compost bins will be sold that day. Free compost will be provided as usual.

Expenses paid to date

Balance for fy 2013= \$3000

Baseline/trash per household idea

year - total trash tonnage - households - trash per household - tip fee that year - I don't have these numbers assembled yet

Dispersion

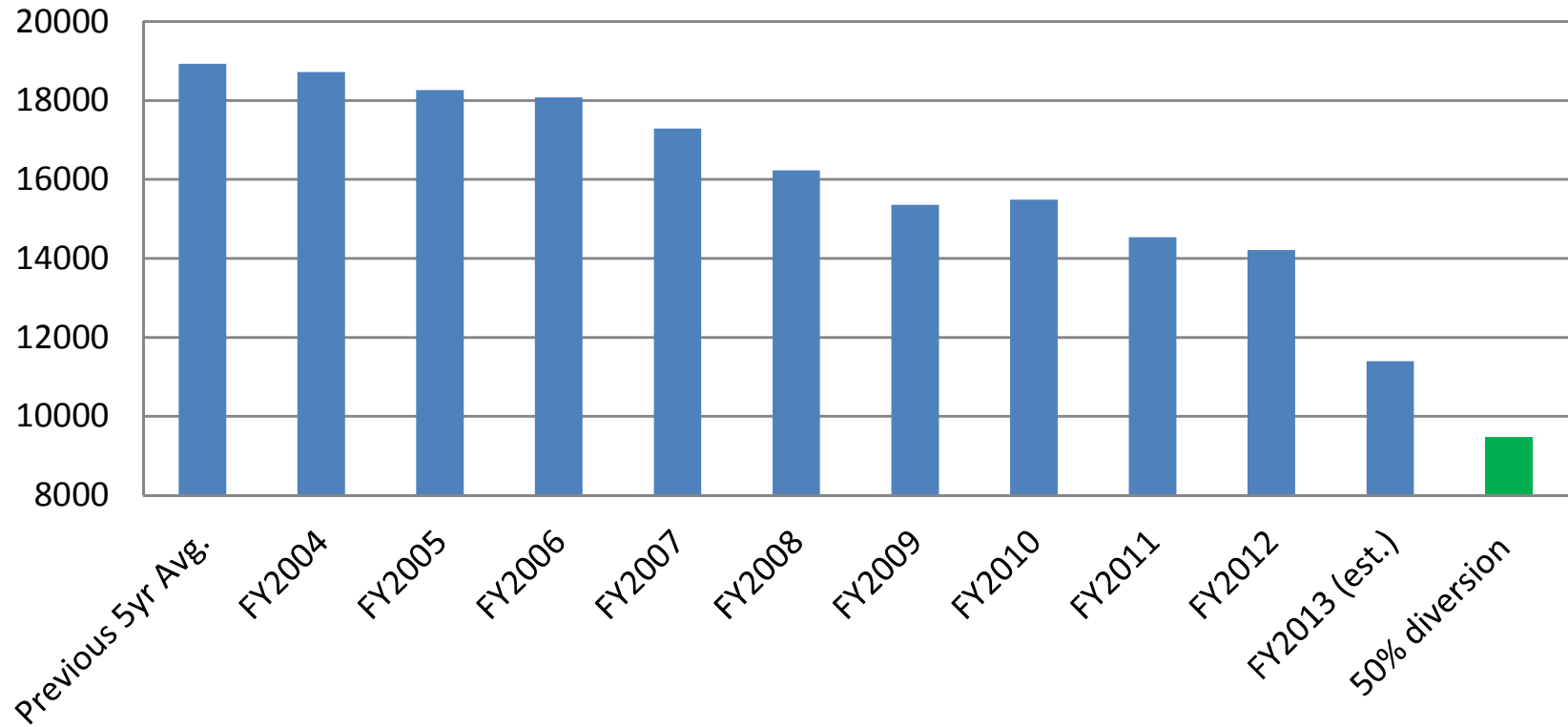
Recycling Rates 2012

| | |
|------|---------------|
| July | 638/1596=39% |
| Aug | 653/1838=35% |
| Sept | 398/1420=28% |
| Oct | 838/1909=43% |
| Nov | 2033/3141=64% |

yard waste + recycling / (yard waste + recycling + trash)

hard to compare to last yr # hh uncertain

Arlington's Ambitious Goal 50% Municipal Solid Waste Diversion



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December 20, 2012

Governor Deval Patrick
Office of the Governor, Room 280
Boston, MA 02133

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr., Secretary
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge St., Suite 900 Boston, MA 02114

Dear Governor Patrick and Secretary Sullivan,

As a Green Community, Arlington is constantly striving to enhance our ability to operate in a sustainable manner.

For example, we have made and continue to make great strides forward in reducing our energy consumption through implementing building (LEED) and energy conservation strategies (LED lights, Solar installations) that serve to reduce our carbon footprint.

Equally important is our ability to reduce our solid waste footprint. In this regard, Arlington is considered to be a leader as we continue to implement creative strategies to reduce our solid waste footprint.

For example, effective October 1, 2012, Arlington has begun to strictly enforce its mandatory recycling policy which projects to further increase Arlington's already high recycling rates. Through this policy and other past efforts, we anticipate that by the end of FY13, that over a period of 10 years, we will have reduced our solid waste footprint by an amazing 40%!

Critical to our ability to reduce our solid waste footprint, are clear policy directives from the executive branch and MA-DEP. Such financial incentives could reward successes in waste reduction and be targeted at supporting other means of waste reduction that are currently cost prohibitive (i.e. food waste).

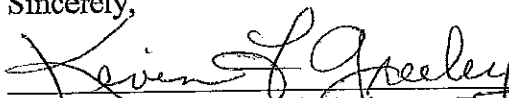
As you know the MA-DEP released a draft copy of the Commonwealth's 2010-2020 Solid Waste Master Plan on July 1, 2010. This document set forth a long range goal of zero waste and an interim 2020 goal of a 30% reduction in solid waste statewide. The plan also details a variety of efforts that the MA-DEP and communities can undertake to reach these goals. After issuing the draft, MA-DEP held hearings across the state and took public comments through October 2010. Unfortunately the plan has yet to be finalized and released.


We write to request that the 2020 Solid Waste Master Plan be finalized, released and implemented so that we can use this important policy directive as a tool to educate our residents as we continue our efforts to implement responsible and sustainable solid waste initiatives at the local level.


We also request that any implementation of this plan look at municipal results in regard to solid waste reduction before looking at municipal methods. Our recent implementation of mandatory recycling has yielded positive results, and we want to be sure that communities have the flexibility to implement programs that are the right fit for the community (i.e. mandatory recycling vs. PAYT).

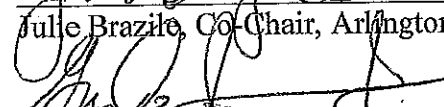
Massachusetts needs to have a clear and forward-looking policy in this area and it needs it now. We would appreciate you giving this your highest level of attention and support.


Sincerely,


Kevin F. Greeley, Chair Arlington Board of Selectmen


Michael Rademacher, Director Arlington Department of Public Works


Julie Brazile, Co-Chair, Arlington Recycling Committee


Gordon Jamieson, Co-Chair, Arlington Recycling Committee


Gail McCormick, Chair, Sustainable Arlington

cc:

Lt. Governor Timothy Murray
Senator Kenneth Donnelly
Representative Sean Garballey
Representative David Rogers

DRAFT

MA Municipal Solid Waste Master Plan

Review of plan and implications for Arlington

Includes town's current diversion rates of various
waste ban materials and diversion totals

Why a plan?

MSW is a GHG contributor

It is increasingly understood that solid waste management is an important contributor to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

Massachusetts is bound by law to reduce GHG emission (Global Warming Solutions Act)

- Between 10 percent and 25 percent below statewide 1990 GHG emission levels by 2020
- 80 percent below statewide 1990 GHG emission levels by 2050

Solid waste management is an important aspect of our GHG mitigation planning for 2020

Why a plan?

Encourage economic growth

Already, recycling, reuse, and remanufacturing (that is, manufacturing based on recycled feedstocks) directly support

more than 2,000 businesses with an estimated
an estimated 14,000 jobs in Massachusetts
a payroll of nearly \$500 million
bring in annual revenues of \$3.2 billion

Missing from the Plan?

Public Health and Environmental Justice considerations

The Plan

Materials Management Goals

2020 Goals:

1. Reduce solid waste disposal by 30% by 2020, from 6,550,000 tons of disposal in 2008 to 4,550,000 tons of disposal by 2020.
2. Continue to divert toxic substances from the solid waste stream.

2050 Goals:

By 2050, Massachusetts residents and businesses should reduce the amount of waste they produce by 80%, and virtually eliminate products containing toxic chemicals from our disposal facilities.

The Plan

Objective 1: Maximize Recycling

1. *Increase Business and Institutional Recycling and Composting*
2. *Increase Residential Recycling and Composting*
3. Strengthen Incentives Through Producer Responsibility
4. *Stimulate Greater Reuse of Materials and Products*
5. *Deploy Diversion Strategies for Organics and C&D*
6. *Build Local and Regional Recycling Markets*
7. Commonwealth Leading by Example
8. Statewide Education Campaigns
9. Eliminate Barriers to Siting Recycling and Composting Facilities
10. *Keep Toxics Out of the Waste Stream*

The Plan

Objective 2: Improve the Environmental Performance of Solid Waste Facilities

1. Maintain Moratorium on Municipal Waste Combustion
2. Improve Solid Waste Facility Waste Ban and Recycling Performance – *Improve facility compliance with waste bans and revise regulations to include more stringent requirements in facility waste ban plans.*
3. Reduce Emissions and Increase Energy Efficiency of Municipal Waste Combustors
4. Landfill Oversight

The Plan

Objective 3: Develop Integrated Solid Waste Management Systems

1. Work with interested parties (municipalities and/or businesses) to develop integrated solid waste management systems *Work with interested parties, including municipalities and businesses, to develop integrated solid waste management systems that achieve our objectives by integrating reuse, recycling, and composting opportunities into holistic solid waste facility design.*
2. Pilot innovative approaches that achieve our objective
3. A leadership example of such an integrated approach: Nantucket
 - biodegradable packaging by law
 - a comprehensive recycling drop-off center
 - a materials recovery facility
 - monthly hazardous product collections
 - a reuse swap shop
 - a C&D handling facility
 - co-composting of the remaining trash with sewage sludge to produce compost.

Setting new goals for Arlington

where will the next 10% come from?

Waste ban changes- materials

1. Add "commercial organic material" as a banned material and define "residence or residential" in this context
1. Add cumulative action level for all banned material, action taken when cumulative reaches 40%
2. Change action level for paper, bottles and cans from 20% to 10%

from the DRAFT revision 12/4/12

Waste ban changes- inspections

1. DARP program ended 7/1/12
- 2.

from the DRAFT revision 12/4/12

Electronic Waste

Unwanted consumer electronics - cell and smart phones, computers and monitors, televisions, DVD and MP3 players, pagers, PDAs and other devices - are the fastest-growing category of waste in Massachusetts.

Until recently, Bay Staters were discarding an average of more than 900,000 units annually, but that number has increased due to the federally-mandated transition to digital television broadcasting.

Electronic Waste

Food Waste

"Despite the fact that 40% percent of food is wasted, getting food from the farm to our fork eats up 10 percent of the total U.S. energy budget, uses 50 percent of U.S. land, and swallows 80 percent of all freshwater consumed in the United States."

National Resources Defense Council, 2012

Food Waste

Timothy Jones, Anthropologist at University of Arizona, Tucson:

Americans throw away 500 lbs of food per year per household

Arlington's share: 3,636 tons or \$254,520

(based on 16,000 households and \$70/ton fee)

or

+/-44,000=- people/4=1 household of 4 people= about
11,000 households > $2,677 * 70 = \$186,700$

Paper

Bulky Items

Mattresses

Carpet

Furniture

Rigid plastic

Arlington's current Residential Diversion Rate

Formula used by the Department of Environmental Protection:

Residential Tons Diverted (recycled + composted + hazardous products collected)

divided by

Residential Tons Generated (diverted + disposed)

Tons Generated = Tons Disposed (all reported residential disposal, bulky waste disposal) + Tons Diverted (Generation is based on actual data reported by cities and towns. If a municipality does not report tons disposed, MassDEP estimates the tons generated by multiplying the municipality's population by a statewide average per-capita residential generation rate.)

Arlington's current Residential Diversion Rate Trends

Diversion Rates 2012

| | Diverted | Waste | Rate |
|-----------|----------|-------|------|
| July | 683 | 1596 | 39% |
| August | 653 | 1838 | 35% |
| September | 398 | 1420 | 28% |
| October | 838 | 1909 | 43% |
| November | 2033 | 3141 | 64% |
| December | | | |

Private Hauler Regulations

86 Municipalities have some form of private hauler regulations

Prepared by Carolyn Dann, Mass DEP
Edited by CWM for the Arlington Recycling Committee 1/4/13

Enabling Legislation

Chapter 31B

No Board of Health should knowingly issue a license to a firm that is known to be out of compliance with state laws and regulations

310 CMR 19.017: Waste Disposal Ban Regulation

In 1990, the Massachusetts DEP introduced its first bans on landfilling and combustion of easy-to-recycle and toxic materials. Additional "waste bans" have been phased in over time.

Who Is Responsible?

- MassDEP has an equitable two-pronged approach to compliance and enforcement of the waste bans. This strategy holds all parties responsible for waste ban compliance, including solid waste facility operators, haulers and generators of solid waste
- As recycling program managers, municipal recycling officials can use waste ban enforcement to strengthen local recycling requirements and hold haulers responsible for recycling service.

Attleboro's Approach

- Adopted July 1, 1999
- Licensee (private hauler) shall provide integrated solid waste services to allow compliance with the DEP solid waste bans. The licensee shall provide recycling service to allow compliance with the DEP solid waste bans and the Health Department bans by the effective dates of those bans.

Attleboro's Approach

- Public Hearing for Rubbish/Recycling Haulers
- Notifications to Rubbish/Recycling Haulers
- Notifications to Residents and Businesses

Enforcement

- City Ordinance states homeowners shall separate from non-recyclable rubbish all domestic recyclables.
- City Ordinance states to be considered for a rubbish abatement, rubbish and recycling shall be separated with a proof of a contractual agreement which provides rubbish and recycling with the property owner.

Benefits of Regulating Private Hauler

- Recycling offered to ALL residents, including multi-family and 40B complexes
***especially important for Arlington*
- Potential to be cost-neutral or less-costly if can reduce the number or size of dumpsters or frequency of trash collection.